

Media consolidation is a scary prospect - Saddam had his mouthpieces, the bureaucracy of the USSR had theirs; now it seems that President Bush has his - certainly a surrogate.

It is morally wrong to take public airwaves and exploit them for political gain. This is cheating the American people. Selling a political hit piece as news does not serve our country - people need fair and balanced reporting and presentations of news and materials - not obviously biased presentations.

A "story" (editorial) such as that described by executives of the Sinclair Broadcasting Group re: John Kerry's comments and service to our country after his return from Viet Nam. presented a few weeks before the Presidential Election, must be answered with equal time at an equal cost by the those with opposing views. A failure to provide for equal time to respond can hurt our democracy - a democracy that is based in part on informed decisions (votes) of the electorate. It is the height of cynicism to use the airwaves as it appears Sinclair intends to do.

Advertisements, editorials, and platforms must be identified as such, and not presented as news.

Where will ordinary Americans turn for help and truth if the media cannot be depended upon? Whom will the ordinary Americans trust if the media is not held accountable?